



# STEEPLE NEWS

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Steeple News  
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## **BROADVIEW'S EMPHASIS ON RENEWAL | By Pastor Dan Stern**

Broadview's emphasis on renewal, visibility and growth has continued to shape a significant part in our life together in recent months. Our Renewal and Growth team has been meeting each month, and has made progress toward getting new signage for the front of the church. We've also gone door-to-door promoting our recent "Movie Nights at the Broadview" outreach program, and have been following through with plans for additional summer movies (outdoors!) and picnics (see details below). These, we see, as opportunities for a kind of 'soft evangelism' in the wider community.

Broadview was represented at the recent Crosswalk America event, where we walked to show the wider world that progressive churches are a vital presence in America too! Then on June 25 at the Seattle Pride Parade, Sam and Dan, Joan Henjum, Carrie Hylander, and two of her friends handed out hundreds of cards sending people to our church website. We also were listed in another great print media ad for Open and Affirming UCC area churches, we helped staff a Pride weekend Seattle Center UCC Open and Affirming churches booth, and began door-to door distribution of a new round of 'welcome to the neighborhood' letters to new residents of the neighborhood.

I'm personally quite excited about recent church website improvements that have come about largely thanks to Mary Mackenzie's expertise and Marc Hoffman's willingness to record sermons each week! If you haven't visited the site lately [www.broadviewucc.org](http://www.broadviewucc.org) you're missing out on the BEST way to stay updated – there are LOTS of new pictures, including ones of my journey on sabbatical, recent sermons both in written and in audio form, and even a new interactive blog for dialogue!

Here is a list of other events/activities currently in the works:

**An all-church, invite your neighbors and friends church yard picnic and party on Friday evening, July 14.** We will, if the elements conspire to allow it, grill a hearty main dish for all, and invite all comers to bring salads and sides. We also hope to show a 'just for fun' outdoor movie that night on the front porch (title TBA) See Jerry, Kay Dan, or Jane as to the emerging details. MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW.

Plans are also in the works for another great (outdoors on front porch>) **MOVIE NIGHT AT THE BROADVIEW on Tuesday, August 1,** immediately following the BLOCK PARTY to take place in the church parking lot that evening. Movie time will be around 8pm, movie TBA. Mark your calendars, and be sure to plan to invite a friend!

(Pastor Dan will be present and participating, but not preaching, on the following Sundays):

**On Sunday morning, July 30, we will welcome Steve Wakefield.** Steve, who participated in Pastor Dan's installation service at Broadview six and a half years ago, has been working in the area of HIV-AIDS prevention and research for over a decade, directing agencies in both Chicago and now here in Seattle at Fred Hutch. Steve has done HIV educational work all over the globe, from rural South African townships to urbane, ultra-modern Berlin, Germany. He was a faithful member of a UCC church in Chicago, and continues to be a dedicated man of faith who 'walks his talk'.

**On Sunday morning, August 13, we will welcome Rev. Dave Shull.** Dave is currently trying to live into the new. At the end of May he returned from three months of Spanish language immersion in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala. He served on the clergy team at University Congregation United Church of Christ for 11.5 years with his partner, Peter Ilgenfritz, until the end of January. Peter continues to work at UCUC. Dave continues his private psychotherapy practice. He and Peter share their South Seattle home with Paul Chiocco and Doug McCrary, and Paul and Doug's newly-adopted daughter, Charlotte.

**Continued on page 2**

<b><u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u></b>	<b><u>PAGE #'s</u></b>
<b>Broadview's Emphasis on Renewal</b>	<b>1-2</b>
<b>Former Members in the News</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>News from Gail Williams</b>	<b>2-3</b>
<b>Birthdays</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>What it is Like to be Jewish at BCUC</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Broadview Choir Announcement</b>	<b>3-4</b>
<b>Words of Remembrance</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>A Letter to my Father</b>	<b>4-5</b>
<b>Share House Reminder</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Readings July and August</b>	<b>5</b>

## Continued from page 1

### **On Sunday morning, October 29, we will welcome**

**Tamara Roberts.** Tamara is a sixth year seminary student at Seattle University and in care of the Pacific Northwest conference as she pursues her degree. She lives in North Bend with her husband Jeff and their two daughters Miranda and Nicole. The Roberts family shares a house with their best friends, John and Laurie and their daughters Naomi and Esther. The eight human beings share the indoors with a cat, a Dalmatian, and a Newfoundland, and the outdoors with eagles, brown bear, elk and quail among others. Tamara loves reading and rollerblading, swing dancing, playing solitaire showdown and hosting dinner parties.

Here are my plans for upcoming pastoral continuing education: I will be participating in a Preaching Seminar at Whitworth College, Spokane, July 11-13. Theme: *Preaching Skills for Postmodern Proclamation and Postmodern Dialogue.*

I am also signed up for a ministers' continuing education seminar with Rev. Tony Robinson to take place on several Thursdays in the Fall. Theme: *Leading Vital Congregations.*

ALSO...

- Gary Law and Dan Clark Wedding Ceremony at the Church on Saturday, August 26.
- Sunday, Sept 3: LABOR DAY WEEKEND RETREAT w/St. Paul's. Worship WILL BE AT BROADVIEW for persons of BOTH churches who cannot be at Pilgrim Firs, St. Paul's to provide music accompaniment here. Jan and Tracy Studyvin on planning team for retreat.
- Get the down and dirty details about **Elena Richmond's newly-forming Fall Choral Group** (to begin meeting Wednesdays at 6:00pm in October)! You DON'T even have to know how to carry a tune to participate joyfully with THIS singing sensation!

### **FORMER BCUCC MEMBERS IN THE NEWS** **Paraphrased by Mary Mackenzie**

**John and Lois Selmar** were featured in an article in The Gresham Outlook on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2006. The article entitled, *Church's Ads About Inclusion Cause Controversy* talks about the new National UCC church commercials aired in May. The Zion United Church of Christ where John and Lois attend were planning on wearing hats adorned with Red or Black Commas on them on Mother's Day. A group calling themselves the "Comma Mommas" were to deliver signed petitions to NBC and CBS at the headquarters in New York protesting their decision to not air the UCC commercials. The

ejector seat ad, the UCC's most recent ad, had people of different race, sexual orientation, screaming kids all being ejected out of the church by a person pushing a big red button, then at the end of the ad it says, "God doesn't reject people. Neither do we...No matter where you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here." John Selmar is quoted as saying, "Everyone is welcome here and that's the truth." NBC and CBS allowed one of the three UCC ad's to be played, but also rejected the Bouncer Ad, the UCC's first ad. The article goes on to give an example of someone who had been hurt by another church, and then accepted at Zion UCC. John is finally quoted as saying, "We really are a voice in the wilderness."

For copies of the article please contact Mary Mackenzie in the office. 206-363-8060.

### **NEW FROM GAIL WILLIAMS**

Yes, it's been eons, but I have been following the Broadview news, and very occasionally talking to Joan. I'm so pleased she was approved for ordination.

I wish I could be up at Broadview! I'm doing okay. I taught English for a semester at Willits High School, .833FTE, which, for an English teacher, is more than full time. I had a couple of really tough junior class - one class had 20 % of all the identified behavior problems in the school in it. It's weird, but it turned out to be my favorite class. I managed to get one kid removed from my class (and from his posse) early in the semester, and another was working with the school psychologist on anger issues, and we managed to get on a good footing ) it helped that he and I figured out the he needs to listen to tapes/CDs of books while he's reading them), and the rest just gradually decided it worked better if they worked with me rather than against me. I think it helped a lot that I had a good sense of humor, and that I really required work from them! Imagine that!

I applied for a full time position (there were three openings - one was filled by an in-district transfer), but two brand new teachers were hired. I was told by people at the school (not the administration, of course) that it came down to money -- my salary pays for 1 1/2 new teachers. Oh, well. I was very angry at first, but decided God has other things for me to do, like get back on the chaplaincy hunt. My doctor actually took my name and phone number over to the hospital administration when he heard I had endorsement. The hospital thought they had hired someone, but it turned out to be a "well, maybe," so I am taking my resume and a letter in Monday

Here's my family news: Meegan (my niece and Janis' youngest, who got married last summer) had a little girl, Reata Jalene (for Janis and Darlene, the grandmothers) Lucore, Monday June 26; Sarah)Vicky's oldest whose husband Phil is

**Continued on page 3**

## Continued from page 2

an Episcopal priest) is expecting a baby boy August 21; my nephew Andrew (Vicky's) married Dana Wagner, my best friend Paula's daughter July 3, and they are expecting a baby in December (you met Paula at my graduation party -- very short and red haired -- she and her twin, Naomi, have been friends since we were ten years old); Eric's sister, Kristy, is expecting a baby in October! Whew! The wedding party for Andrew and Dana is this coming Saturday at Sourgrass Meadow up near Dorrington, above Arnold. I think it's part of Big Trees State Park.

That's enough for me -- oh, my spasms subsided enough that I was able to walk the entire 4th of July parade route with the Code Pink (anti--war) group. I hope to join them for more activities.

I am joining First Christian Church of Ukiah (Disciples/UCC), but my membership will leave my BCUCC membership intact. That's happening this Sunday. I homilized on 2 Corinthians 6:1-13 two Sundays ago. Not an easy text, but I thought it applied to our little church better than the others.

Much love,  
Gail

### BIRTHDAY LIST

#### July

Georg Meyers	7/1
George Lindsay	7/3
Pete Thorn	7/5
Peter Kujac	7/7
Day Murti	7/14
Jeff Lundt	7/19
Frances Squaglia	7/19

#### August

Vernon Work	8/6
Neva Naf	8/21
Mary Linda Cook	8/22
Dan Clark	8/24

### WHAT IT IS LIKE BEING JEWISH AT BCUCC

#### By Judy Zibbell

While I am neither black nor gay, I am Jewish at a Christian Church and have found there, support, encouragement, and another family.

First, let me tell you how I found BCUCC. I used to live right across the street from the church and one day Dan cam by on his bicycle and asked if I would be interested in coming to the church. I said I was Jewish but noted how nice a smile he had and how bright his eyes were. But I put it out of my mind for a while.

Finally, one day I got there and although the details of the day are fuzzy, I know I felt a warmth and friendliness I don't often find.

Things progressed till I offered to be a worship leader which I enjoyed and found much to my surprise that I like public speaking.

With Dan's approval I even spoke about Hanukkah and Passover which was well accepted by the congregation. People told me I had a nice voice and at one point I joined the choir as well. Jessie Paterson and I went to the Symphony a number of times and it became my job to visit the homebound.

I can't tell you how much it meant to my soul to be able to speak about my religion to people of another faith. I know I don't get the opportunity to talk about my religion to people of my own faith.

But best of all were the people I met: liberal, good sense of human and just plain fun. When my father died, I got a lot of support which helped me through the difficult time. When I Really needed someone to talk to I would go to Dan in his office and have a chat which made me feel much better and comforted.

So I feel like I want to thank the whole Broadview community for being so welcoming to me. You are indeed open and affirming.

### BROADVIEW CHOIR ANNOUNCEMENT

It used to be that everyone sang. There were no televisions. People sat around their pianos at home and sang songs. Singing and making music is part of being alive. My philosophy is that music is to be sung and played by everyone, however well or badly. Technological advances that have produced near perfect recordings have also produced so much performance anxiety that ordinary people are afraid to make music because they don't feel they measure up. My 14 years of directing The OK Chorale which now rehearses in the acoustical heaven that is your church sanctuary has convinced me that when people are enjoying themselves and are not afraid to make mistakes, voices find their resonance and a very good sound gets unleashed.

I love the sound of voices harmonizing. When I stopped trying to be a solo performer, I found I enjoyed directing much more and loved working with a group. I would like to get a church choir started with you at Broadview. The OK Chorale rehearses at 7PM on Wednesdays. What works right now for me would be to use the hour before the Chorale to start working with you -- so from 6 to 7 PM on Wednesday nights. I'd like to follow a quarterly schedule so it would be 2 months on, a month off, give or take a week or two. I would anticipate being able to put together something to sing in the Sunday morning service at least once a month.

**Continued on page 4**

### **Continued from page 3**

No auditions. I believe everyone can sing. With some encouragement and a few hot tips, everyone can learn to sing a little better than they do now. And we can all benefit from enjoying ourselves and each other. Just because your grade school music teacher told you to mouth the words is no reason not to sing out now. So what do you think? Do we have a choir? Let me know: elenar@earthlink.net or 206 783 7326.

### **WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE**

**By Rev. Dan Stern**

In memory of Gertrude Anna Fischer Work.

Gertrude met Vernon – twice, in fact, in one day – once coming, and once going, at a stairwell somewhere in San Francisco, CA in the summer of 1941. Later that same week, Vernon told his father that he believed he had met the woman he wanted to marry. And sure enough within a years time, that's precisely what happened.

After Vernon's WWII military service, they settled in Seattle. Both of Gertrude and Vernon's daughters, Linda and Sandra, were baptized, confirmed, and married in this church, Broadview Community UCC, where both Vernon and Gertrude have been dedicated members for over 50 years. Gertrude taught Sunday School and Vacation Bible School here. For years, she took on the role of being Broadview's "Question Box" lady, responding in writing to the thoughts and questions young people had about Christian living and about God. She established a fund to further the work of a beloved former pastor, Rev. Jim Gilliam, in his subsequent work with homeless and needy people elsewhere in the US. Other members of this faith community and its Wider outreach. She was a devout Christian who believed in the power of prayer, loved both God and humankind passionately, and never once felt abandoned by God.

Gertrude was dedicated to her husband family. She and Vernon could often be seen holding hands even after 60 years of marriage. They raised not only their daughters, but three other neighbor girls from broken or struggling families. Gertrude's generosity was always broadly extended, even to and including lost and abandoned pets.

One always knew where Gertrude stood regarding her beliefs. She held strong opinions and loved to engage in verbal sparring with those who held other or opposite opinions, so long as they were able and willing to keep up with her and engage her right back. No matter how heated the dialogue, she never considered it an argument, rather, at best, a 'good, strong discussion'. I myself had several of those discussions with Gertrude! Gertrude was an intelligent woman, a poet, a theologian. She was very involved with a local writing group called the Fictioneers.

How many of you knew that Gertrude was a dedicated member of the International Wizard of Oz Federation?

Gertrude, who lived with diabetes and other periodically severe lapses of health and wholeness, took great care to eat right and to live well. She also took great delight in occasional 'exceptions' to her rule of healthy living, especially if the exceptions involved chocolate cream pie!

She and Vernon have provided a slice of her brain tissue to the U of W for memory-related research.

No matter how tired he was, Vernon visited Gertrude pretty much every single day during the last three years of her life, sharing lunch with her where she resided at the Greenwood Health and Rehab Center of North Seattle. Once a young staff person, having observed with some degree of amazement the degree of faithfulness Vernon kept in making his visits, asked him why he kept coming back. "She doesn't seem to even know who you are," the young staff person noted. Vernon replied in an instant, "I come back every day because I still know who SHE is."

Gertrude's favorite saying from scripture were the words from the parable of the stewards in Matthew 25: "Well done, my good and faithful servant."

At the conclusion of each of Vernon's daily visits in Gertrude's waning years, he would share a favorite benediction with her: GOD BE WITH YOU AT THE OPENING OF THE DAY, GOD BE WITH YOU AT THE CLOSE OF THE NIGHT, GOD BE WITH YOU AT ALL TIMES INBETWEEN. God be with you, Gertrude, and well done, good and faithful one. Amen.

### **A LETTER TO MY FATHER**

**By Judy Zibbell**

One of my first memories of my father is us going camping as a family. My father would get Naomi, myself, Andy and Mom walking sticks so we could better navigate the paths in the woods.

My father was always the first one up in the mornings working that Coleman stove and everything he made on it tasted delicious.

I also have a childhood memory of my father teaching me how to ride a bicycle. He ran along beside me until I started pedaling on my own and got my balance.

My parents were eager for us to have what they had never been able to have. Piano lessons, dance lessons, ice skating, birthday parties, all the fun creative things of life. So I grew and bloomed.

My father was always handy around the house and it was not uncommon for me to come home and smell onions which

**Continued on page 5**

## Continued from page 4

meant that serious painting was going on in the house. He was a good fix it man.

Also, we had a good Jewish upbringing. We always observed Shabbas and were encouraged to invite guests over on Friday night. Sunday school was a real pleasure for me and I loved discussing stories of the bible with my father. To this day neither one of us felt it was right that Moses could not get to the Promised Land.

From my father I got a delight in words and writing which I have cherished in my life. He had a soft spot in his heart for poetry.

My teenage years and my early college years were not happy ones for me. During that time I lost contact with my father and it was only after years of work on my part in therapy and twelve step groups that I came to see the wisdom of his advise to me and that he had his own way of caring which was very different from me but nonetheless very real.

In the last five years of our relationship I began to see my father as a real friend and buddy and enjoy my visits with him more and more.

I know my father loved me and wished only for my happiness. He was devoted to my mother and took care of her in the last years of their life together.

I have great admiration for the work my father did in his life. He was devoted to his work but also for his personal energy and good health the fact that he lived as long as he did testifies to that energy.

Every morning my father was up by 7:30 and when not playing tennis he was out walking or swimming. In the last ten years he spent in this home in La Jolla, he really enjoyed it and relished quiet time for reading the newspaper, doing crossword puzzles and sometimes taking a brief catnap.

It is sad and grievous to me not to have my father alive anymore but I know he is up in heaven and can see that all is well with me.

Now it is time for a good long rest.

## READINGS JULY AND AUGUST

### July 2, 2006

Into the Depths  
2 Sam 1:1,17-27; Ps 130  
2 Cor 8:7-15; Mark 5:21-43

### July 9, 2006

Shepherd and Ruler  
2 Sam 5:1-5, 9-10; Ps 48  
2 Cor 12:2-10; Mark 6:1-13

### July 16, 2006

Joy Expressed  
2 Sam 6:1-5, 12b-19; Ps 24  
Eph 1:3-14; Mark 6:14-29

### July 23, 2006

God's Place  
2 Sam 7:1-14a; Ps 89:20-37  
Eph 2:11-22; Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

### July 30, 2006

More Than We Need  
2 Sam 11:1-15; Ps 14  
Eph 3:14-21; John 6:1-21

### August 6, 2006

Called to Be One  
2 Sam 11:26-12:13a; Ps 51:1-12  
Eph 4:1-16; John 6:24-35

### August 13, 2006

Living Love  
2 Sam 18:5-9, 15, 31-33; Ps 130  
Eph 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

### August 20, 2006

Seeking Wisdom  
1 Kings 2:10-12, 3:3-14; Ps 111  
Eph 5:15-20; John 6:51-58

### August 27, 2006

With the Holy  
1 Kings 8:( 1, 6, 10-11), 22-30, 41-43; Ps 84  
Eph 6:10-20; John 6:56-69

## SHARE HOUSE COLLECTION

In July, Share House needs: toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss.  
In August, it needs: Disposable Razors and laundry detergent.

broadview community  
United Church of Christ

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